HFI Specialized Learning is on the Move!
A grand opening concert with River City Brass is planned for October 26

The staff at Holy Family Institute’s Specialized Learning program is always excited, nervous, and optimistic as a new school year approaches. This year, though, they have even more to be excited about: after a busy summer of painting, cleaning, packing, and moving, the team welcomed back students at a new location. The school relocated from Observatory Hill to the former Seville Elementary School in Ross Township, just north of the city of Pittsburgh. The new Seville campus provides opportunities to deliver an enhanced educational program for the students that are served.

The Specialized Learning program serves students with academic or behavioral difficulties that impede their education. HFI Specialized Learning accepts students from school districts in Allegheny and Beaver counties, and served more than 100 students during the 2016-2017 school year.

The Seville campus can accommodate more students. There are private spaces for the school nurse and psychologist, and additional space to eventually offer more mental health and support services at the school. The new facility also has a large gymnasium, athletic fields, and safe outdoor play space for younger students.

“Though it was a lot of work to prepare the new building and move, we’re excited for this new chapter,” said Director of Education Ron Zangaro. “We want to set our students up for success, and the Seville campus will help us provide the best services to do that.”

On Thursday, October 26, Holy Family Institute invites the community to celebrate the opening of the new school with a free concert by the River City Brass Band with support from the Eden Hall Foundation. Please join us for this exciting opportunity to welcome Specialized Learning to Ross Township.

The music begins at 7 p.m.; doors open at 6:30 p.m. The address is 100 Enger Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15214.
Welcome Seniors!

ON SEPTEMBER 1, Holy Family Academy welcomed its first senior class. Of the 49 members in the Class of ’18, 35 started with us at the beginning four years ago. We’re so proud of them, and all of our students!
Dear Friends,

WHETHER YOU ASSOCIATE SEPTEMBER with a new football season, children returning to school, or leaves changing color, we can all agree that fall brings a promise of change. Because of new programs and resources at Holy Family Institute, this fall in particular brings exciting opportunities for the children and families we serve.

Many children and families struggle with barriers to learning and stressors in life that lead to addiction, poverty, limited access to a quality education, and inadequate career development. Holy Family Institute’s mission is to restore hope and transform the lives of those we serve so into something better—for themselves and their communities.

We welcomed our first senior class to Holy Family Academy this month, and we look forward to sharing the college and career paths chosen by our first graduating class. We recently acquired a new school building in Ross Township for HFI Specialized Learning. This first to 12th grade program can now expand to serve more students who struggle to learn in a traditional school setting. We were approved by Allegheny County to provide in-school Student Assistance Programs, and have since established new relationships with a dozen school districts.

Later this fall we will hold our 25th Arthur J. Rooney, Sr. Courage House Luncheon. The late Dan Rooney helped us establish this event in 1993 and we plan to honor his memory with a memorial tribute. Mr. Rooney was a tireless supporter and a good friend who never missed the Luncheon. I hope you will make plans to join us at Heinz Field on November 7.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Holy Family Institute and the children and families we serve. Fall is a busy time, but I hope you are able to find quiet moments of reflection to be thankful for the many blessings God has bestowed on you and those you love.

Yours in Faith,

Sister Linda Yankoski
CSFN, Ed.D.
President & CEO

On August 21, the SNAP® (Stop Now And Plan) program kicked off the new school year with a Family Fest and Resource Fair. More than 50 SNAP program participants and their families attended. Guests played corn hole, got creative with art projects, made buttons, and enjoyed a cookout.
31st Annual Holy Family Golf Classic

ON JULY 31, MORE THAN 120 GOLFERS gathered on the green at Montour Heights Country Club and swung away the gorgeous day for our 31st Golf Classic to benefit Holy Family Academy. The golfers also enjoyed on-course games, a buffet dinner, silent auction, and some friendly competition. There were lots of bogeys and birdies, but at the end of the day all agreed that a good time is just par for the course at this annual event. Many thanks to our sponsors who supported the event!

Holy Family Welcomes Its First Class of Service Corps Members

New Service Corps members Mathew Jury and Elizabeth Fairchild pose with the statue of Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth Mother Foundress Francis Siedliska.

Holy Family Academy Head of School Dr. Lisa Abel-Palmieri and Holy Family Institute President and CEO Sister Linda Yankoski read at Matt and Liz’s Commissioning Service.

Sister Carol Szott smiles during the Commissioning Service.

Join Holy Family Institute and the Pittsburgh Steelers for the 25th anniversary of the Courage House Luncheon on Tuesday, November 7, 2017! This annual event honors both a Pittsburgh Steelers player and a Holy Family alum who have shown courage in overcoming adversity. In addition to an awards ceremony, this exciting event features an autograph session with Steelers rookies and alumni, as well as a silent auction of sports memorabilia, overnight and dinner packages, and more. Special to this year’s Luncheon is a tribute to Dan Rooney, who was instrumental in launching the Courage House tradition in Pittsburgh. Sponsorships and individual tickets can be purchased by calling 412.766.9020 x1439.

Holy Family Receives Grants

Holy Family Institute would like to thank the Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation for the $10,000 grant award in support of its Specialized Learning Program. The funds will support instructional Web access tools, resource binders, and software, as well as student Chromebooks and an upgrade in the student assessment system. All of these items are paramount to Holy Family’s individualized educational system for this alternative school. The program provides a non-traditional education curriculum—with an emphasis on workforce training—while addressing academic and behavioral issues that impede student learning in a regular classroom setting.

Sister Linda Yankoski, The Hearst Foundations Senior Program Officer Ligia Cravo, and Dr. Lisa Abel-Palmieri pose for a photo during Ligia’s recent visit to the Emsworth campus.

The Hearst Foundations (William Randolph Hearst Foundation and The Hearst Foundation, Inc.) recently provided a $150,000 grant award to Holy Family Academy regarding initiatives around Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and girls in science. This generous support emphasizes preparation of our 21st century students for a complex, global society. The Academy was able to show the many valuable ways in which youth are moving into the STEM career pipeline—developing interests, identities, and skills to pursue STEM high education and/or workforce opportunities.
Thank you for your help!

Three groups of volunteers—from Deloitte, Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon, and 4K for Cancer—came to help out at the new Specialized Learning School in Ross Township. They spent their days painting, cleaning, weeding, and planting inside and out of school. We’re grateful to these groups for all their hard work in getting the school ready for students.